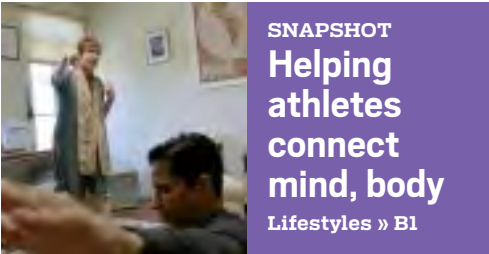




**NEWS**  
**Event puts Indian art on display**  
 Local » A3



**SNAPSHOT**  
**Helping athletes connect mind, body**  
 Lifestyles » B1



**BASKETBALL**  
**Giants stand tall, claim MCAL crown**  
 Sports » C1

MEDALS TABLE				
Nation	G	S	B	Tot
Norway	7	8	7	22
Germany	9	4	4	17
Canada	5	5	5	15
Netherlands	6	5	2	13
United States	5	2	2	9
Austria	3	2	4	9



COOLER

High: 57 Low: 39» PAGE C8

# Marin Independent Journal

Sunday, February 18, 2018

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NOVATO

## Condo owners trapped in legal fray

Management-contractor dispute puts sales, refinancing on hold

**By Richard Halstead**  
[rhalstead@marinij.com](mailto:rhalstead@marinij.com)  
[@HalsteadRichard](#) on Twitter

A legal battle between a construction management firm and a general contractor that involves an accusation of extortion has left 121 members of a condominium complex in Novato unable to sell or refinance their homes for the

past three years.

CIDology Inc., a construction management firm based in Pleasanton, has been accused of extortion by the general contractor it selected to complete \$4.59 million of repairs at Western Oaks Village, a 322-unit condominium complex along Redwood Boulevard in Novato.

In a cross-complaint filed in

2015 in Marin Superior Court, Del Mar Pacific General Contractors of Solana Beach alleges CIDology sought “to extort a kickback from Del Mar Pacific to ensure CIDology’s cooperation in allowing Del Mar Pacific to perform its work.” The matter is scheduled to go to trial in June.

In February 2015, after CIDol-

**CIDOLOGY » PAGE 4**



A legal dispute is tying up owners at the Western Oaks Village condominium neighborhood in Novato.

ALAN DEP — MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL

SANTA ROSA

## Major plan for housing, homeless on entire block

Low-cost units and service center

**By Mary Callahan**  
*The Press Democrat*

Catholic Charities of Santa Rosa is drawing up plans to transform nearly an entire city block with a new homeless service center, family shelter and nearly 140 low-cost apartments in partnership with nonprofit Burbank Housing.

The ambitious project, just now being unveiled to the public, would replace existing facilities and several homes on a downtown city block bounded by Sixth and Seventh, A and Morgan streets, northwest of the Santa Rosa Plaza mall.

The proposal, contemplated for several years though only now beginning to take shape on paper, has “had very positive feedback,” Catholic Charities Executive Director Len Marabella said.

“You know, it’s exciting and exhilarating as you really see it going together,” he said.

Named Caritas Village, from the Latin word for “charity” or “love for all people,” the site includes Catho-

**HOUSING » PAGE 6**

**“We were thinking about maybe a less aggressive housing project — and certainly a more relaxed timeline. But now that the fires hit, we feel like we have more of a moral obligation to the community to move as quickly and aggressively as we can.”**

— Mark Krug, Burbank Housing

MARIN

## HOME PRICES RISE IN 2017



PHOTOS BY ROBERT TONG — MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL

Realtor Blaine Morris, right, shows a listing at 751 Rowland Boulevard in Novato to Will Sousae and Jennifer Heyneman Sousae of San Francisco.

### 8.9 percent hike put median at \$980,000

**By Keri Brenner**  
[kbrenner@marinij.com](mailto:kbrenner@marinij.com)  
[@KeriWorks](#) on Twitter

Marin’s already inflated housing market climbed even more in 2017, with the median price of all homes at \$980,000, an 8.9 percent jump from the 2016 median of \$900,000, a real estate data tracking firm said.

Irvine-based CoreLogic statistics show that sales volume in Marin was also up 2.1 percent in 2017, with 3,386 homes sold during the year, compared with 3,315 sold a year earlier.

Marin’s rising prices are in line with the total Bay Area, although sales volume in Marin took the opposite tack



The house at 751 Rowland Boulevard in Novato is listed for \$1,295,000.

from the region, where sales were down slightly overall, said CoreLogic research analyst Andrew LePage.

The median price of all

homes sold in the Bay Area rose to \$742,500 in 2017, a 10 percent bump over the \$675,000 median in 2016, LeP-

**HOME SALES » PAGE 8**

FLORIDA

## Response fell short despite the dark signs

Shooter cut arms, but still ruled stable

**By Carol Marbin Miller**  
*Miami Herald*

Nikolas Cruz had just broken up with his girlfriend, who had been cheating on him, and he’d gotten into a fight with another boy. He’d drawn a “Nazi symbol” on his book bag. And Broward mental health authorities were worried that his chronic depression was worsening.

It was Sept. 28, 2016, and Cruz — who authorities say has admitted to committing one of the worst school shootings in U.S. history — took to his arms with a knife.

“Mr. Cruz was on Snapchat cutting both of his arms,” the Florida Department of Children & Families’ abuse hotline was told at 1:48 p.m. “Mr. Cruz has fresh cuts on both his arms. Mr. Cruz stated he plans to go out and buy a gun.”

**SHOOTER » PAGE 2**



BRYNN ANDERSON — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
A protest against guns was held Saturday at the Broward County Federal courthouse in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

FILM

### Exuberance as ‘Black Panther’ opens in Africa

The red carpet in South Africa swirled with stunning outfits used in the film’s Wakanda kingdom. **PAGE A19**



NORTH AMERICA

### Quake damages homes, but Mexico avoids ruin

On Friday 50 homes suffered structural damage in Santiago Jamiltepec, Oaxaca state, after a 7.2 earthquake. **PAGE A19**

PROBE

### Adviser says Russian meddling undeniable

A national security adviser says there is evidence of a Russian plot to disrupt the 2016 U.S. election. **PAGE A14**

ONLINE

### See more of the story by going to our website

Find additional photos, albums and links to our videos that can enhance local stories.

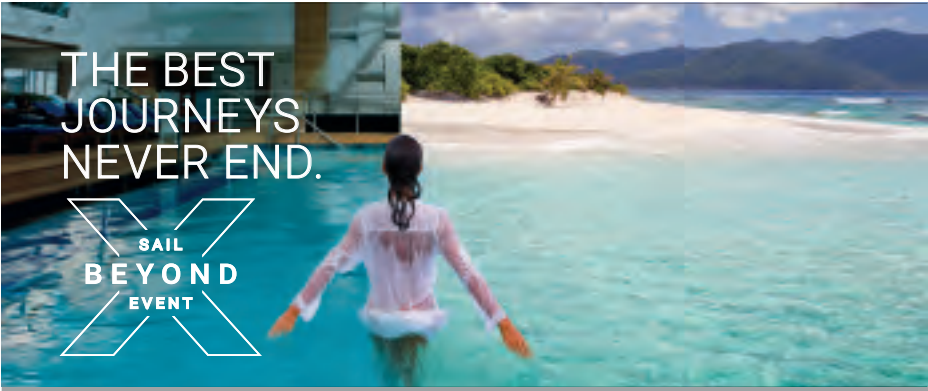
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